



CROSS CONNECTIONS—June 2023

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I recently read an article about a photographer who went to Yellowstone National Park and recreated photos taken by William Henry Jackson in 1871. It’s quite amazing to see the new photos side-by-side with those taken nearly 150 years ago. In our ever-changing, always-moving world nothing can possibly look the same after such a long period of time. Yet, what we find in the nation’s oldest National Park is that those incredible sights haven’t changed.

That’s not to say the park hasn’t changed. It is filled with roads, bridges, hotels, and tourist shops ... and, of course, people.

Our world has changed over the years. With over 8 billion people walking, driving, and flying the world is quickly being covered by roads, buildings, cars, and airports. Technology continues to grow (and shrink) at a rapidly increasing pace. Our world is changing.

We are reminded, though, in Hebrews 13:8 that, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” In a world with more people, taller buildings, and smaller and faster technology Jesus Christ never changes. God’s love, grace, and mercy never fade.

This is especially wonderful news when we feel threatened by the world around us, - when we feel unheard by politicians, when we feel abandoned by the structures of society that we count on to protect us. In all the change in the world, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” That will NEVER change.

Laws change. Leadership changes. Borders change. Even the Church changes. But in all that change, God never changes. Hear the hope in those words! God never changes! Our outlook on life may change. Our understanding of religion may change. Our very views of morality may change. But God Never Changes. God’s love, grace, and mercy - given as a free gift through Jesus Christ - NEVER change.

And rather than see that as a reason to not care about what happens in the world – it should challenge us to do more! *Because* we have God’s immeasurable, unchanging grace we are freed to do more! We are freed to show Jesus’ love to the “unwanted and outcast” of society. We are freed to forgive even those who are declared unforgivable by the world. We are freed to stand up for those who are abused by unfair laws, systems, and policies. We are freed and called.

Whose lives can we touch today? Where can we make a real difference? No life is too insignificant to matter. How can we follow God’s call to reach out to the unwanted, the unforgivable, the abused?

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

It’s both wonderful news and a freeing statement of call for each and every one of us.

In Christ,
Pastor John

Dates of note in June

- June 1 Pastor John at Good Sam
- June 2-4 Nebraska Synod Assembly in Kearney
- June 7 Church Council at St Peter
- June 5-10 Confirmation Camp at Camp Carol Joy Holling
- June 12 Bishop Maas, Nebraska Synod, visits
Potluck meal following worship
- June 21 Pastors at text study

Inside this issue

**From the desk of
Pastor John**

**Baptism, Prayer List &
Funeral**

**June Birthdays & Mini
Food Pantry Update**

**June Minister Assistant
Schedule**

Serving Team Updates

World Vision

**Connecting Team
Fireside Event Photos**

Support Groups

**Fish Fry & Fellowship—
Lutherdale**

Mission Council Minutes

**Financial Report &
Endowment Fund
Update**

**Staff & Ministry
Leadership Teams—
Updated May 2023**

June Calendar

MAY BAPTISMS

Joslyn Rose Jazdzewski, daughter of Ryan and Anna (nee Vogt) Jazdzewski, born on January 27, 2023, was baptized on Sunday, May 7, 2023.

This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased.
Matthew 3:17



CROSS PRAYERS LIST

Annie Bailey	Ryan Larson
Cody Baumgart	Bev Leonard
Don Brink	Howard Murrah
Jim Brink	John Oldenburg
Pat Christopherson	Etta Olson
Liam Finucane	Bob Remer
Tiffany Freiwald	Delta Shine
Jeff Gayhart	Addison Smith
Richard Griebel	Ryan Tate
Jim Kohler	

Jessica, Mapenzi and Clarisse,
the children we sponsor through
World Vision.



*“Pray for another, so that you will be healed”
James 5:26*



Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends, of Mary Lou Burton, member of our congregation. Mary was born on 11/13/1933 and passed to eternal life on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers for comfort. May she rest in heavenly peace.

ASSISTANT MINISTERS

We are always looking for Assisting Ministers.

If anyone is interested, or you may know of someone who would be interested in, please call the church office at 262-763-6570.

ALTAR GUILD

We are looking for someone to set-up before and clean-up after service on Sundays. It takes roughly 10 minutes to set-up and maybe 20 minutes to clean-up. Please consider being part of the Altar Guild team. If interested or have questions, please call Marlene Remer at 262-210-7465.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/2	Walby, Mrs Siri
6/2	Deans, Mrs Jaimie R.
6/2	Swantz, Brandon Daniel
6/2	Oldenburg, Caden R.
6/3	Klug, Nicholas Jeffrey
6/3	Sharpee, Alaric
6/4	Hefty, Mr Todd
6/5	Follis, Jacob
6/6	Flores, Shawni
6/7	Grisham, Mrs Tammy
6/8	Stoughton, Isabella Lynn
6/8	Warren, Sophia Rose
6/9	Schneider, Mr Steve
6/10	Ebert, Mr Randy
6/11	Vorpagel, Carlie
6/12	Metzger, Miss Norah
6/13	Vorpagel, Mr Erwin Richard
6/13	Ahearn, Mrs Jean
6/13	Stoughton, Mr Rod W.
6/13	Litviak, Ms Katie

6/13	Johnson, Emily
6/14	Stubley, Ms Jackie
6/16	Fitch, Mr Norman (Norm)
6/16	Taylor, Seth
6/17	Enright, Mr Jeff
6/18	Deans, Zachary James
6/19	Hotvedt, Jenna Louise
6/22	Strelow, Mrs Bonnie
6/22	Stoughton, Mrs Stacy L.
6/22	Nie, Sean Steven
6/23	Schneider, Mr Eric
6/24	Moen, Mr John
6/24	Mutter, Mrs Michelle (Shelly)
6/26	Robshaw, Mrs Trina
6/26	Ebert, Mrs Jennifer
6/26	Kreuscher, Maegan Ann
6/26	Geyso, Grace
6/28	Salaja, Jessica Lauren
6/30	Herrmann, Mr Scott Paul

Mini Food Pantry Update

A big 'Thank You' to everyone that has donated financially or with food items to our mini food pantry over the last couple of years. It has been a huge success and a great ministry to our neighborhood. To this point it has functioned totally by donations. We currently re-stock the pantry twice a week. We need your help to continue this needed ministry. Currently, our financial funds are very low and our food reserves are also getting low. So, your donation of money and / or food items would be greatly appreciated. Your donation of money can be put in an envelope marked 'Food Pantry' and placed in the collection plate or dropped off at the church office. Likewise, if you wish to donate food items, a list of needed items can be found on the door of the large wooden cabinets across from the church office. Thank you for your continued support.



JUNE VOLUNTEERS: Assisting Ministers

DATE	TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER
June 3	5:00am	Ryan Jazdzewski
June 4	9:00am	Rachel Bennett
June 10	5:00pm	Polly Burrigh
June 11	9:00am	Barb Tate
June 17	5:00pm	Anita Mucci
June 18	9:00am	Lois Berg
June 24	5:00pm	Nancy Dey
June 25	9:00am	Polly Burrigh



SERVING TEAM UPDATES



“Thank you for the April and May donations of paper products, laundry detergent and dishwashing liquid that will be given to Love, Inc. **The June collection for Love, Inc. is peanut butter and jelly and new and gently used children’s books.**”

Barb Tate and Terrie Bandoli have ended several terms as members on the Serving Team. They are thanked for their ideas, time and work to better the lives of others.

Welcome to newly elected Bonnie Flitcroft and Lisa Schneider who will join Marilyn Hansen on the Serving Team.”



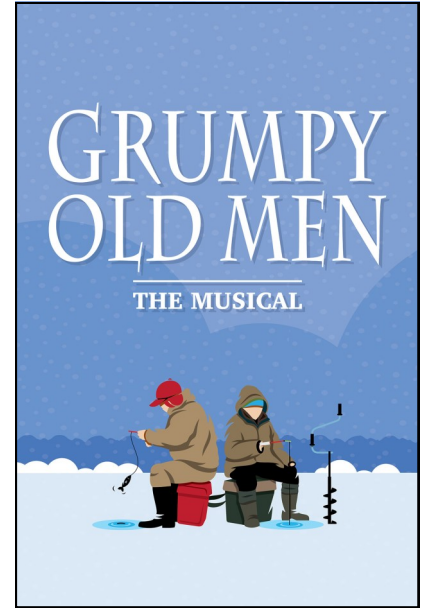
World Vision is a Christian Humanitarian Organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God’s unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

Sponsors are needed for Mapenzi, Jessica and Clarisse, the three World Vision girls sponsored by Cross. **Sponsors are needed for September, October, November and December. The sign up sheets are on the bulletin board across from the welcome desk.** One girl can be sponsored for \$40 a month or all three girls for \$120 a month. Designate “World Vision Sponsor” on the memo line of your check. “Your donations get combined with other sponsors’ gifts to support community-wide projects that benefit” Mapenzi, Jessica and Clarisse and other vulnerable children in areas like “CHILD PROTECTION, CLEAN WATER, HEALTH, EDUCATION, ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT and SPIRITUAL NURTURE.” “This approach means more kids can thrive, not just those who are sponsored!”

~Serving Team Members

**CONNECTING TEAM—
Fireside—Grumpier Old Men**





The
Fireside



The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.

Psalms 34:19

SUPPORT GROUPS

◇For **Women's AA** contact Marlene K. at 262-210-5918 for more information.

◇The **Family Caregiver Support Group** that met at Cross the 3rd Wednesday of each month is a part of the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Racine County. This group is not meeting at this time. When they resume meetings, we will share information.

◇**Healing Hearts Support Group** (normally met the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm in the upper level at the Coffee House) is currently not meeting. For future information on reopening, contact: healinghearts@mail.com.

SAFE FAMILIES

This organization is dedicated to help families in crisis. It helps give temporary aid when needed. If you can help in any way, please call Terry Erb of our congregation for more info at 262-492-8615.



LOVE INC.

Love, Inc. is always in need of volunteers to help in their food pantry or sorting through donations.

Please visit love-inc.net/volunteer/opportunities for the most up to date list of volunteers needed.

For more information on how to donate and what to donate, please visit love-inc.net/donate.

Make sure to follow Love, Inc. on Facebook (@Loveincwi) for the most up to date information on hours of operation, donations being accepted and more.

JOIN US FOR A

FISH FRY and FELLOWSHIP

Sign up in the Narthex
For June 9th!

At Lutherdale Bible Camp
N7891 US Highway 12, Elkhorn WI



Serving 4:30-7:00 pm

Adults \$18.00

Children 10 and under \$10.00

Meet at Church at 5pm to car pool

Sign up sheet is in Narthex



Gather with us for dinner with a view!

We thought it would be fun to come together to enjoy the surroundings and meal. Check out Lutherdale's website at Lutherdale.org for additional information regarding the menu (chicken tenders available upon request).

We can pay at the door or on line.

Fish Frys are available the second Friday of each month until September. We hope you can join us!

The Fish Fries help support the ministry of Lutherdale.

Mission Council Minutes—May 16, 2023

Present: Pr. John Brink, President Andy Johnson, Rachel Bennett, Joyce Etter, Ryan Jazdzewski, Claudia Kreuscher, Secretary Patty Oldenburg.

6:36 – Called to order.

Opening Prayer – Pastor John

WELCOME – to new members, Claudia and Ryan.

Claudia is a lifetime member of Cross. Her father, Art Stratton, was a member of the church council when the current Cross building was built. Claudia and her husband farm over 500 acres. They also have animals that are tended to by their children and twelve grandchildren. Claudia enjoys crafting and sewing.

Ryan was baptized at Cross and is a lifetime member. He is a husband and father of two young children. He enjoys spending time with his family. Ryan is a specialist in wood floor restoration. A fun fact, Claudia is Ryan's aunt. Welcome to Mission Council Claudia & Ryan!

MOTION – by Rachel Bennett, second by Joyce Etter, to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting. – **Approved**

Pastors' Highlights:

Confirmation is completed for this school year. The group ended the year with discussions about "hard questions." There were nine students in the class. Their summer assignment is to read the book of Romans.

Pastor John still visits Pine Brook Point and The Bay monthly to lead a service. He also leads Noah's Ark chapel twice a month. "God loves YOU!" is a favorite theme for the preschoolers.

Since the pandemic he has performed more burials of non-members. There is a need for those families who don't have a church home.

Summer service hours will begin the weekend of June 3rd & 4th. Saturday service will remain at 5:00. The Sunday service will be **held at 9:00 a.m.**

Major Ministries

RIC Discussion – Pastor John and Andy explained the RIC process and what it means to our newest council members. There was discussion on the difficulties of pursuing becoming an RIC congregation and the unintended possibility of alienating current members. There was a consensus that verbiage and presentation are very important in moving forward. Next, we will put together a core group of volunteers who are passionate about welcoming and inclusion at Cross. Joyce Etter has volunteered to become a member of the core group. Andy will give a Mission Moment later in May or early June.

Continued on next page

Mission Council Minutes— *Continued*

Semi- Annual Meeting Recap – Everyone was pleased with the brief semi-annual meeting that was only minutes long. With an almost full ballot and a unanimous vote to accept all nominees, the meeting was over quickly. Andy stated that he would like council to work with the Stewardship Committee this year. It is good to have a full team serving again.

Mission Council Leadership – Patty made the **motion** to approve Andy Johnson as Mission Council President, 2nd by Joyce. – **Approved.** Pastor John made the **motion** to approve Ryan Jazdzewski as Mission Council Vice President, 2nd by Andy. – **Approved.** Thank you to Andy & Ryan for serving in these leadership roles.

Minor Ministries

Installation Date for Council Members – It was decided that the weekend of June 3rd & 4th council members will be introduced to the congregation. Council members can attend the service of their choice. If the date conflicts with participation for a member, Pastor will install them at a future date.

Stained Glass Windows – Council has approved the sale of the stained-glass windows that were removed from the narthex area. There was discussion on suggestions for a positive and profitable sale. It was suggested that we have the windows appraised. Patty will contact the Buildings & Grounds Committee to spearhead this project.

Nursing Room – there was a brief discussion on finding a comfortable room that could be available on Sunday mornings for nursing mothers. Further discussion is tabled until next month.

Thank You Notes – Andy

Closed with The Lord's Prayer – All

Meeting adjourned – 8:08 p.m.

Next Meetings – **Thursday, June 29 - 6:30 in person, church library.**

Thursday, August 10 – 6:30 in person, church library.

Respectfully submitted, Patty Oldenburg - Mission Council Secretary



New church leadership team elected

Cross members voted unanimously to accept a new slate of church leaders during the semi-annual meeting on May 7. Thanks to those who have served on various teams and committees. Special thanks to Marie Way and Terry Erb for serving two terms on Mission Council. Your time and dedication are appreciated. Thank you to the leaders who will be starting their terms and bringing the light of your gifts forward to help Cross live out our mission. Lastly, a big thank you to Dorothy Hakala and the Nominating Committee for their efforts in assembling this year's leadership team.

FINANCIAL REPORT—As of 04/30/2023

EXPENSES			
Jan.	\$22,793.76	\$33,431.50	-\$10,637.74
Feb.	\$26,787.59	\$25,281.34	\$1,506.25
Mar.	\$25,204.32	\$23,948.74	\$1,255.58
Apr.	\$21,188.86	\$23,814.90	-\$2,626.04
May			\$0.00
Jun.			\$0.00
Jul.			\$0.00
Aug.			\$0.00
Sept.			\$0.00
Oct.			\$0.00
Nov.			\$0.00
Dec.			\$0.00
Totals			-\$10,501.95
Major Maintenance			\$82,374.72
Parking Lot Fund			\$39,499.79
Parking Lot CD			\$125,000.00
General Scholarship		2023	\$1,140.00



Endowment Fund

The Church CPA review of the 2021 and 2022 Endowment Fund accounts and the Seminary Assistance Trust account has been completed. The next meeting of the Endowment Board of Trustees is planned for Thursday June 1 at 6 p.m. via zoom.

Cross Lutheran Staff & Ministry Leadership Teams as of May, 2023

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturdays In-person - 5pm

Sundays In-person & On-line - 9am (summer) 10am

* Facebook: [@crossburlington](#)

* [YouTube Channel](#)

* Website: www.cross-church.org

[Online Fellowship](#) - 15 minutes following worship

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor - Pastor John Brink

Church Office Administrator - Carol Fischer

Financial Administrator - Bobbie Abel

Custodian - Bob Remer

CHURCH MUSIC STAFF

Organist - Ginny Richards

Part-time Organist - Brian Plehn

Contemporary Music Director - Brian Plehn

Joyful Voice Director - Brian Plehn

Chapel Bells Director - Open position

CONTACT INFORMATION

Cross Office: 262-763-6570

Emergency: 262-757-8111

E-mail: crossbur@cross-church.org.

Noah's Ark: 262-767-9095

Website: www.cross-church.org.

Facebook: [@crossburlington](#)

Instagram: [@crosslutheranburlington](#)

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS

Call the office for further information

LUTHERDALE REPRESENTATIVES

John Hakala

Blaine Warren

SYNOD VOTING MEMBERS

Jim Hansen

Marilynn Hansen

THRIVENT REPRESENTATIVES

Scott Herrmann: 262-716-5454

Call 800-Thrivent to direct your "choice" dollars

MISSION COUNCIL

Andy Johnson, President

Ryan Jazdzewski

Claudia Kreuzscher

Patty Oldenburg, Secretary

Rachel Bennett

Joyce Etter

BUSINESS BOARD

Lois Berg, Director

Brett Metzger, Treasurer

Doug Bouchat, Secretary

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Brian Erb

John Oldenburg

Terry Long

Bob Remer

Mike Ladd

Steve Schneider

CONNECTING TEAM

Anita Mucci

Pam Murphy

Marlene Remer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Terry Erb

Marie Way

Brenda Fanter

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Patricia Christopherson

Cheryl Theis

John Hakala

Chuck Stublely

SERVING TEAM

Bonnie Flitcroft

Marilynn Hansen

Lisa Schneider

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Bonnie Flitcroft

Betty Olson

Garry Giller

Tammy Hogan

Jenny Morehouse

ENDOWMENT BOARD

Marilynn Hansen, President

Doug Belot, Vice President

Blaine Warren, Secretary


Charles Stublely, Treasurer

Annie Bailey, Trustee

Sharon Johnson, Trustee

Beth Oliver, Trustee

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4</p> <p>8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:00am Adult Bible</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30am Tiger Den Meeting</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30am Gospel Gathering 10:45am Staff Meeting 4:00pm Connecting Team 4:00pm Serving Team 6:30pm Scouts Committee</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:00pm Endowment Fund Board Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00am Quilting Ministry 4:30-7:00pm Fish Fry @ Lutherdale</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00am Men's Ministry 5pm Worship</p>
<p>11</p> <p>8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:00am Adult Bible</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30am Gospel Gathering 10:45am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Webelos Meeting</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30pm Ruth Circle</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00am Men's Ministry 5pm Outdoor Worship and Pet Blessings</p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:00am Adult Bible</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30am Gospel Gathering 10:45am Staff Meeting 1:30pm Pastor John @ Pine Brook Pointe 6pm Building & Grounds</p>	<p>21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor John on vacation from June 19—26th</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00am Men's Ministry 5pm Worship</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:00am Adult Bible</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30am Gospel Gathering 10:45am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Business Board Meeting 6:30pm Pack 373</p>	<p>28</p> <p>2:00pm Pastor John @ The Bay</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00am Quilting Ministry</p>	
<p>Pastor John on vacation from June 19—26th</p>						



126 Chapel Terrace
Burlington, WI 53105
(262) 763-6570

Tuesday – Friday: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
Saturday: Open for worship at 5pm until after service.
Sunday: Open for worship at 10am service

WWW.CROSS-CHURCH.ORG



@CROSSBURLINGTON